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when such appears justified by exceptional circumstances which may have interrupted or delayed direct transport.

Art. 7. The Minister of Commerce, Industry, Posts and Telegraphs, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of the Interior, and the Minister for War are entrusted within their respective provinces with the execution of this Decree, which shall be published in the *Journal officiel* and in the *Bulletin officiel* of the Government-General of Algeria.

Given at Paris, the 2d May, 1915.

R. POINCARÉ.

By the President of the Republic:

GASTON THOMSON,
Minister of Commerce, Industry, Posts and Telegraphs.

DELCASSÉ,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

A. RIBOT,
Minister of Finance.

L. MALVY,
Minister of the Interior.

A. MILLERAND,
Minister for War.

EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND FRANCE AND RUSSIA MODIFYING ARTICLE 2 OF THE CONVENTION OF NOVEMBER 9, 1914, RELATING TO PRIZES CAPTURED DURING THE PRESENT WAR.[1]

Article 2 of Convention of November 9, 1914 (Captures of Merchant Vessels belonging to the Allied Countries)

By exchange of notes (15th February — 27th April, 1915) between His Majesty's Government and the French Government it has been agreed that, where both vessel and cargo are proceeded against under Article 2 of the convention of the 9th November, 1914,[2] the provisions of paragraph 1 of that article shall be held to apply in all cases. Where only the cargo of the vessel is concerned, however, it has been agreed that, in addition to the specific case provided for by Article 2, para-

[1] Great Britain, Treaty Series, 1916, No. 5.

[2] Supplement to this JOURNAL, January, 1916 (vol. 10), p. 20.

graph 2 — viz., where the original destination of the vessel was an enemy port — the principles laid down in that paragraph shall apply also to cases of contraband consigned to a neutral port and to cases of enemy property where the original destination was not a hostile port.

By exchange of notes (31st May, 1915–26th October, 1916) between His Majesty's Government and the Russian Government it has been agreed that a similar interpretation of Article 2 of the convention shall be held to apply in the cases above referred to.*

[Official footnote]

* By the Imperial Russian Ukase of the 10th/23rd August, 1915, it is decreed that enemy cargo found in Russian vessels, and equally in Allied vessels, which have been overtaken by the war in Russian ports or littoral waters, or which have entered therein during the war is liable to confiscation on the order of the nearest prize court.

ACCESSION OF ITALY TO THE CONVENTION OF NOVEMBER 9, 1914, BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND FRANCE RELATING TO PRIZES CAPTURED DURING THE PRESENT WAR.[1]

London, January 15, 1917

(1)

The Italian Ambassador to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

(Translation)

LONDON, *January 15, 1917.*

SIR,

With reference to Viscount Grey of Fallodon's note of the 24th July, 1915, I have the honor to inform your excellency that the Italian Government have decided to accede to the convention concluded between Great Britain and France on the 9th November, 1914,[2] relating to naval prizes during the present European war, notwithstanding the interpretation which has been given by the British and French Governments to Article 2 of the convention referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the above-mentioned note.[3]

[1] Great Britain, Treaty Series, 1917, No. 6.

[2] Supplement to this JOURNAL, January, 1916 (vol. 10), p. 20.

[3] Printed herein, p. 129.